

# CONFIDENTIAL

## WEEKLY HOT ISSUES REPORT FOR RA/DRA

**WEEK ENDING April 18, 2014**

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### OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION

#### *This Week*

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#### \* R8 Comments on Wyoming's Assessment Methods for the 2014 Integrated Report and 303(d) List

**Background:** Every two years, states are required to prepare water quality assessment reports under CWA Section 305(b) and prepare a list of waters that are water quality limited (impaired) under CWA Section 303(d). This combined report and list is referred to as an Integrated Report (IR). EPA's duty is to review 303(d) lists for approval/disapproval actions. In preparation of the IRs, states develop assessment methodologies that describe the means by which the state will use data and water quality standards for use attainment determinations. EPA has no approval/disapproval responsibility for assessment methods; rather, EPA provides comments and input to ensure that decisions made using these methods that are reflected in 303(d) lists are supportable. Wyoming is in the process of drafting their 2014 Integrated Report and provided R8 with draft assessment methods for review.

**Issues:** On April 2, the Water Quality Unit (WQU) provided comments to Wyoming regarding a change in their 2014 IR assessment methodology used to evaluate *E. coli* data for recreational use impairment determinations in which they intend to use their newly State adopted *E. coli*

**Deliberative Process / Ex. 5**

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**Contact: Tom Johnson x 6226 or Sandra Spence x6947**

## **Region 8 Meeting with Park City Officials on April 17, 2014, Marsac Mill and Park City's Soils Ordinance**

On Thursday, April 17, 2014, the Region 8 Superfund program will be meeting with representatives of Park City, Utah, regarding the Marsac Mill site, located near downtown Park City. The city requested this meeting to discuss assessment of potential contamination in residential areas adjacent to the mill and, if necessary, potential cleanup options. The city also wants to discuss with EPA its current soil ordinance and potential changes to the ordinance.

**Contacts: Ryan Dunham, 312-6627 and Andrea Madigan, 312-6904**

## **Columbia Falls Aluminum Smelter Site Public Meeting**

The Region 8 Superfund Site Assessment Program held a public meeting in Columbia Falls, MT on April 15 to discuss the recently completed site reassessment of the Columbia Falls Aluminum Smelter. Representatives from Montana DEQ also participated in the meeting. The results of the site reassessment found the site to be eligible for placement on the National Priorities List (NPL), found cyanide below the MCL in two residential drinking water wells and identified releases of hazardous constituents to the surface water. The expanded sampling of residential wells conducted last week by the Region 8 Emergency Response Program was also discussed. Approximately 60 people attended the meeting including local elected officials and a member of US Senator Walsh's staff. Local television and print media covered the public meeting. Overall, the public was supportive of conducting further environmental investigation and cleanup of the site. There is interest in further discussing the potential regulatory programs for this work to proceed, with the primary alternatives being the state and federal Superfund programs.

**Contacts: Robert Parker (312-6664) and Victor Ketellapper (312-6578)**

**Utah grant proposals**

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

# Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**Contact: Penney Trujillo (303) 312-6691.**